

Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2008 - Forest Habitat Improvement

(Released 10/12/2007)

Description:

This EQIP Fiscal Year 2008 funding pool is used to assist landowners interested in managing their forest land for non-game wildlife and plant species of greatest conservation need. These species are identified in the Tennessee Wildlife Action Plan and in the Tennessee Natural Heritage Database. In the first year of participation in this fund pool the applicant must sign up for the Prescribed Forestry Incentive Practice (409). Minimum contract size is 10 acres. This incentive practice will be for the development of a Forest Habitat Management Plan that prescribes a wide range of silvicultural options that are compatible with the habitat requirements of species of greatest conservation need and maintain the landowner's opportunities for current and future sustainable timber production. It is anticipated that in subsequent years landowners who have obtained an EQIP Forest Habitat Management Plan may apply for incentive payments for practices prescribed in that plan.

Land Uses:

Forest, Wildlife

Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.00

Optional Notes:

The Prescribed Forestry conservation practice (code 409) will be the only practice required in the first year of the contract.

National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 10.00

Questions:

Number	Question	Points
1	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in considerable reductions of non-point source pollution, such as nutrients, sediment, pesticides, excess salinity in impaired watersheds, groundwater contamination or point source contamination from confined animal feeding operations?	5
2	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable amount of ground or surface water conservation?	5
3	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction of emissions, such as particulate matter, nitrogen oxides (NOx), volatile organic compounds, and ozone precursors and depleters that contribute to air quality impairment violations of National Ambient Air Quality Standards?	5
4	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable reduction in soil erosion and sedimentation from unacceptable levels on agricultural land?	5
5	Will the treatment you intend to implement using EQIP result in a considerable increase in the promotion of at-risk species habitat conservation?	5
Total Points		25

State Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 10.00

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Does your property fall within or connect to a very high or high priority nongame wildlife area as identified by the Tennessee Wildlife Action Plan?	150
	2	Does your property contain any significant geologic or hydrologic features such as a cave, sinkhole, cliff, boulder field, mountain peak, mesic ravine, river, large stream, creek, wetland, etc.?	150
	3	Is your property adjoining any publicly-owned lands that are managed primarily for conservation, wildlife, or forest management?	100
	4	Do you have any declining or imperiled forest types on your property, such as bottomland hardwoods, hemlock, native upland pine, spruce-fir, etc.?	100
	5	Do you own one hundred acres or more of forestland, or does your property connect to a large block of primarily native, non-monoculture forest that is at least five hundred acres or more in size?	100
	6	Does your property have a professionally developed management plan (e.g., Tennessee Division of Forestry Forest Stewardship Plan, Natural Areas Registry Program Plan, etc.) that includes multiple use objectives for wildlife or protection of environmental quality (e.g., prevention of exotic species, soil erosion, water quality)?	50
	7	Is the majority of your forest primarily twenty years old or greater?	50
	8	Are you committed to managing your property in a sustainable manner to enhance forest habitat for nongame wildlife or plant species of greatest conservation need?	50
	9	Are you willing to follow a written, multiple-use forest management plan developed by a professional forester or a wildlife biologist?	50
		Maximum Points: Total Points	800

Local Issues:

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:

Air Quality: Excessive Greenhouse Gas - CO2 (carbon dioxide)
 Prescribed Forestry (409)

Fish and Wildlife: Habitat Fragmentation
 Prescribed Forestry (409)

Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Cover/Shelter
 Prescribed Forestry (409)

Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Food
 Prescribed Forestry (409)

Fish and Wildlife: T&E Species: Declining Species, Species of Concern
 Prescribed Forestry (409)

Fish and Wildlife: Threatened and Endangered Fish and Wildlife Species
 Prescribed Forestry (409)

Plant Condition: Noxious and Invasive Plants
 Prescribed Forestry (409)

Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor
 Prescribed Forestry (409)

Plant Condition: T&E Plant Species: Declining Species, Species of Concern
 Prescribed Forestry (409)

Plant Condition: Threatened and Endangered Plant Species
 Prescribed Forestry (409)

Soil Condition: Compaction
 Prescribed Forestry (409)

Soil Condition: Damage from Sediment Deposition
 Prescribed Forestry (409)

Soil Condition: Organic Matter Depletion
Prescribed Forestry (409)
Soil Erosion: Classic Gully
Prescribed Forestry (409)
Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill
Prescribed Forestry (409)
Soil Erosion: Streambank
Prescribed Forestry (409)
Water Quality: Excessive Suspended Sediment and Turbidity in Surface Water
Prescribed Forestry (409)
Water Quality: Harmful Temperatures of Surface Water
Prescribed Forestry (409)
Water Quantity: Excessive Runoff, Flooding, or Ponding
Prescribed Forestry (409)
Water Quantity: Reduced Storage of Water Bodies by Sediment Accumulation
Prescribed Forestry (409)

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